

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness, having a composition represented by the general formula $Al_aMg_bMn_cCr_d$, wherein b, c, and d are, in mass percentage, $3.0 \leq b \leq 5.6$, $0.05 \leq c \leq 1.0$, $0.05 \leq d \leq 0.7$, $c + d > 0.2$, and a is the balance with unavoidable impurity elements possibly being contained, wherein a matrix of the aluminum alloy is a structure substantially composed of an aluminum solid solution, in which no β -phase is present.
2. The aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness according to Claim 1, wherein b, c, and d are, in mass percentage, $4.3 \leq b \leq 5.2$, $0.05 \leq c \leq 0.7$, $0.05 \leq d \leq 0.5$, and $c + d > 0.2$.
3. The aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness according to Claim 2, wherein b, c, and d are, in mass percentage, $4.5 \leq b \leq 5.0$, $0.2 \leq c \leq 0.7$, $0.1 \leq d \leq 0.3$, and $c + d > 0.2$.
4. The aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness according to Claim 1, wherein $c + 3.2d \leq 1.25$.
5. The aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness according to Claim 1, wherein the aluminum alloy contains no compound having a particle size of greater than 5 μm .
6. The aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness according to Claim 1, wherein the aluminum alloy contains a compound having an average particle size of 200 nm to 5 μm and a precipitate having a particle size of no more than 100 nm.

7. The aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness according to Claim 1, wherein an anodic oxide film formed on the aluminum alloy by anodizing has a lightness of at least 55, as indicated by an L* value, which is a lightness defined in JIS Z 8729.

8. The aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness according to Claim 1, wherein the aluminum alloy has a hardness Hv of at least 125.

9. The aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness according to Claim 1, wherein the aluminum alloy has a cold workability of at least 55% in terms of fractional reduction in cold upsetting height.

10. An aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness, wherein the alloy according to Claim 1 is used for at least one slide fastener constituent member selected from the group consisting of elements, stoppers, a pull tab, and a slider.

11. An aluminum alloy with excellent decorativeness, wherein the alloy according to Claim 1 is used for at least one selected from the group consisting of snap buttons, ordinary buttons, and clasps.